

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 043961
ORIGIN EA-12

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66011

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APPROVED OY: EA/ANP EHURWITZ

PM MARTHINSEN

-----095032 181909Z /70

R 188945Z FEB 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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FOL TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE SECDEF JCS CIA FROM BERN
DTD 17 FEB 1978 QTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERN 787

DEPT PASS NSC FOR CDR SICK

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PARM XO

SUBJ: US-USSR INDIAN OCEAN ARMS CONTROL TALKS: CONTINGENCY

PRESS QS

ND AS

1. FOLLOWING ARE US DELEGATIONS SUGGESTED PRESS QS
AND AS FOR USE BY DEPT ON "IF ASKED" BASIS.
DENT MAY WISH TO REPEAT THESE TO MOSCOW,
GENEVA AND BERN FOR FIELD CONTINGENCY USE. AGREED
IS-SOVIET PRESS STATEMENT SENT SEPTTEL.

2. BEGIN TEXT

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(1) Q. HAS THE SITUATION IN THE HORN AFFECTED
THE COURSE OF THE INDIAN OCEAN TALKS?

A. THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SOVIET UNION
IN THE HORN ARE IN OUR OPINION INCONSISTENT WITH
THE GOAL OF THE TALKS AND WILL OBVIOUSLY
AFFECT THE POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH TALKS ARE

CONDUCTED.

(2) Q. DID THE US SIDE PROTEST TO THE SOVIETS
OVER THEIR ACTIONS IN THE HORN?

A. WE HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE SOVIET
MILITARY ACTIVITY IN THE HORN AND THE HIGH LEVEL
OF SOVIET NAVAL PRESENCE IN THE AREA WHICH WE
CONSIDER INCONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSE OF THE TALKS.
THE PURPOSE OF THE CURRENT TALKS IS TO REACH A
STABILIZATION AGREEMENT LIMITING THE MILITARY
FORCES OF BOTH NATIONS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN.

(3) Q. HAS THE HORN SITUATION BLOCKED ALL PROGRESS
IN THE TALKS?

A. IT HAS HAD AN INHIBITING EFFECT. SOME
PROGRESS WAS MADE ON CERTAIN TECHNICAL ISSUES IN THIS ROUND.

(4) Q. WHAT WAS THE SOVIET RESPONSE TO OUR EXPRESSION
OF CONCERN?

A. THE SOVIET SIDE DISAGREED WITH US.

(5) Q. WHEN WILL THE DELEGATIONS MEET AGAIN?

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A. THE DATE OF SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS WILL BE
FIXED BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT, AND AS IN THE PAST
DETAILS WILL BE WORKED OUT IN THE CAPITALS. END TEXT. WARNER
UNQTE VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: NEGOTIATIONS, SALT (ARMS CONTROL)
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 18 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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